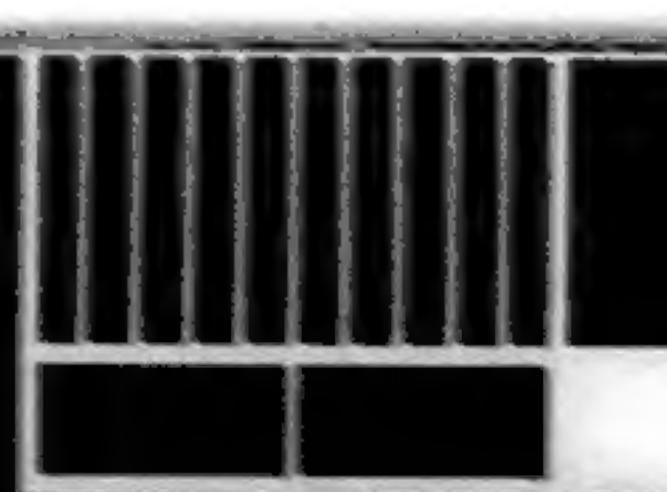


Rec'd Nov 4th
Ans Nov 9
~~B. S. Joc~~

Uxbridge Oct 31st 1870.

Dr George Engelmann: dear Sir:

I take the liberty of writing to you and asking you to do me a favor because I know of no one else to whom I could go. I have been studying structural botany during the past year under the private teaching of Prof de Bary of Halle Germany and before I came away he requested me to undertake the investigation of the Scolla, especially with reference to the mode of its germinating from the spores. Under his direction I went as far as could be gone with only dried herbarium fruits to examine. And he told me that when I returned to America I might perhaps obtain some of the living plants from you, so as by cultivating them to have under my hand all the different stages of growth.

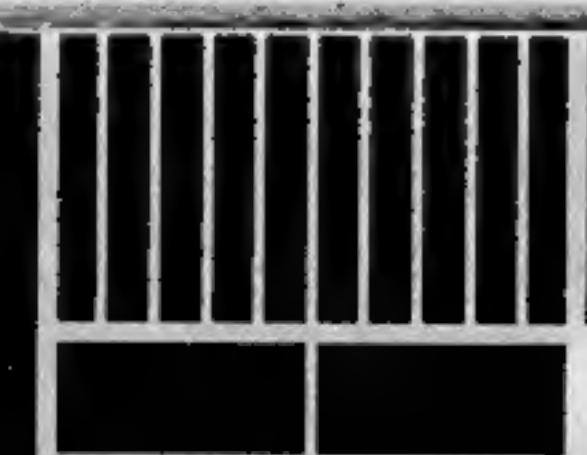
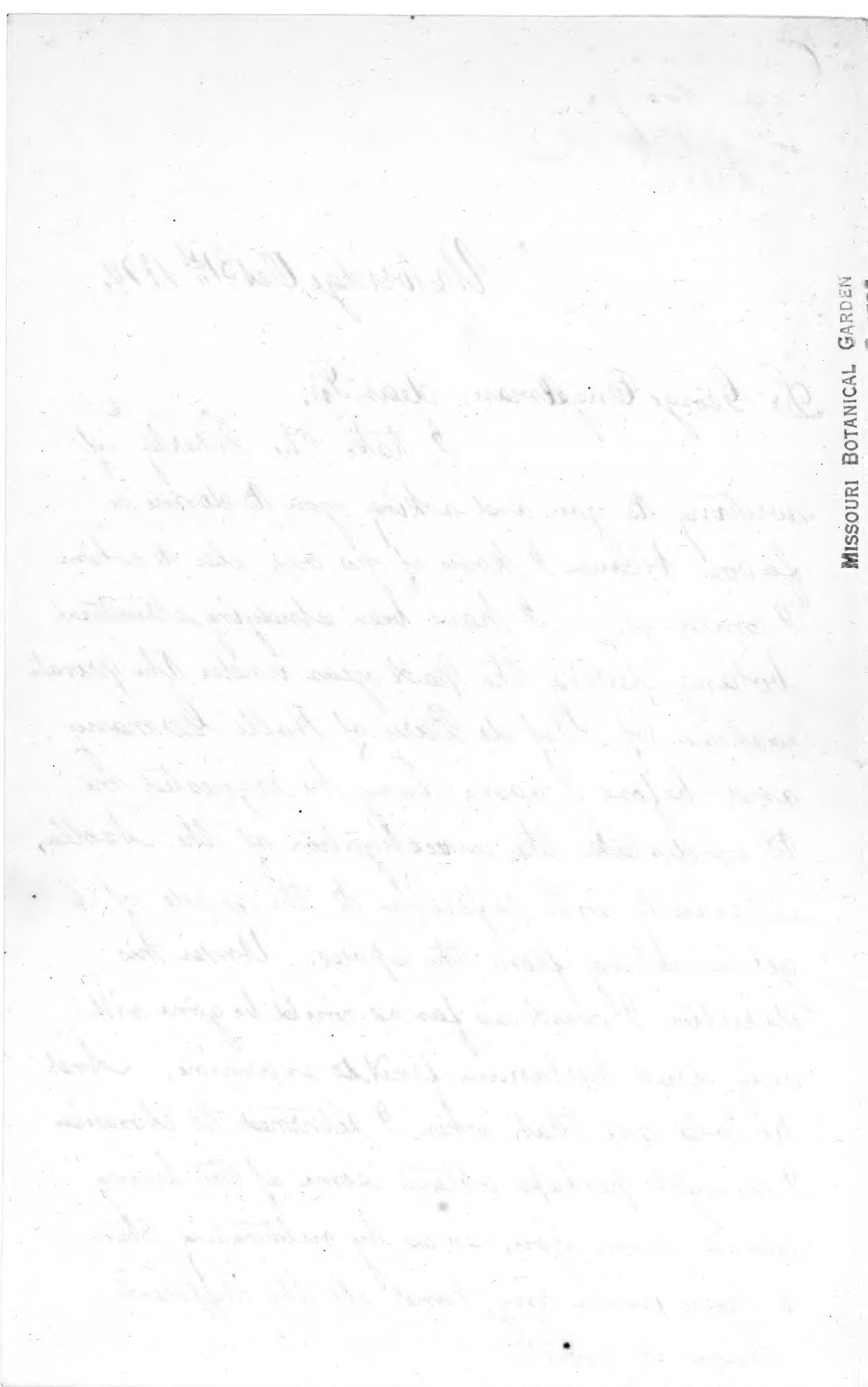


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Can you then send me a lot of these plants put up in such a way as to come alive to me?

I will of course pay all expense incurred in the transportation. I would very much like it if I could get them this fall so that I might be ready for them first starting in the late winter or early spring.

If at the same time you would tell me in what sort of water they grow, and give me hints as to the most probable mode of successful cultivation you would be doing me a great favor. If there should be none of the plant growing near you, could you send one dried specimen to a brother of mine who is living in Ypsilanti, Cedar County Iowa (Rev George J. Biscoe) so that he might know how it looked and hunt for it in his neighborhood.

I am sorry to ask you to trouble yourself so much for a stranger, but as I said in the beginning I do not know of anybody else who can help me, and I am anxious to get about the work.

You will very much



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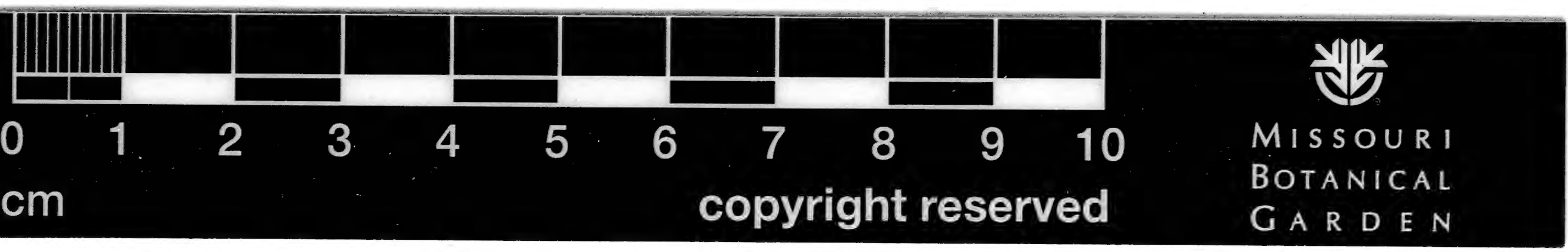
oblige by an early reply even if you can not
send the plants.

yours most respectfully

Thomas S. Briscoe.

Uxbridge.

Mass.



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Ans^d Oct 19
Ans van Day
B

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

321. George St.
Cincinnati Oct 17. 1881.

Dr. Engelman,

Dear Sir,

You may remember receiving a letter from Uxbridge Mass., about a year ago, in which inquiry was made concerning a water plant "Azolla Caroliniana". You replied that the severe drought of the preceding summer had destroyed the plants in the locality where you had been accustomed to find them.

Are they to be found this fall in your vicinity? I have come to Cincinnati to live; and have searched this neighbourhood carefully for the past month in the hope that I might find the plant, but as yet I have been unsuccessful. I want very



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much to have the living plant this
winter growing in an aquarium, that
I may study their mode of reproduction.

Can you help me either by sending
me plants from your vicinity or giving
me the names of gentlemen who might
be able to supply?

yours most respectfully,

Thomas D. Biscoe.

P.S. I will of course defray the expense
of sending to me by express; if you can
find the plants and will be so kind as
to be at the trouble of gathering and packing
them,



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Rec'd Nov 25
Ansman by

Uxbridge Mass. Nov 21st 1872

Dr George Engleman
St Louis. Mo.

Dear Sir.

I am sorry to trouble you again about "Azolla caroliniana" but I would like to know whether it can now be obtained in the localities near you which have been dried up in previous seasons?

Can you give me the address of any botanists who do know where it can be had? I have as yet been unable to get the least trace of the plant.

Do you know whether any European parties have succeeded in getting any living specimens? You spoke of having several applications from abroad.

yours most truly
Thomas D. Biscoe



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